



Old Faithful

This Week

Anthem:

September 21
"Salvation Is Created"
(Paul Tschesnokoff)

Devotions:

September 17
Sue Larson
September 24
John Rosenfeld

Other:

- *Sight-Singing: Chapel - 6 PM*
Wednesday, September 17
- *Men's Sectional: 10 - 11:30 AM*
Saturday, September 23



Member of the Presbyterian
Church (USA).

Visit us @ www.pcusa.org.

Add your voice! Come join us!
Rehearsal is Wednesday evenings,
7:20 PM in the Sanctuary.

Pinnacle Presbyterian Church
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Scottsdale, AZ 85255
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www.pinnaclepres.org
Director of Music: Brent Hylton
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www.pinnaclepres.org/music
Meeting Time: Wed, 7:10 - 9 PM
Place: PPC Sanctuary
Newsletter Editor Contact:
PPC.Choir.News@cox.net
News Deadline: Sunday PM

From the Music Stand...

Performing great music requires--and gives--everything in the human experience: intellect, emotions, physical skills, social skills, all fully exercised simultaneously to a common goal. It's why making music is such a good metaphor for health, for healthy social interaction, for attempting and achieving other goals than a musical performance--and the difficulty of doing it right, in even one part of your life, for even the few months it takes to learn, rehearse, and perform at that level, explains why there's so little harmony and unity elsewhere.

Any choral singing, however simple, requires being able to sing on pitch (which means being able to hear pitches accurately), sing notes of the right duration at the right time. As training advances, singers learn to "shape" a note (so, for instance, you never just sing a note the same volume all the way through...you learn to start soft then swell, start louder than fade, "round" a note by starting softer, swelling, then fading, start loud and instantly go soft, etc.) In addition, singers learn to sing "with expression"...adding emotional tones to the voice no matter which notes are being sung, which requires feeling just enough of that emotion for it to leak into the voice and not enough to turn off the brain that should be keeping the performance on track.

A singer must be able perform the music in all its complexity while not being drawn off by other singers singing their parts--or others in his/her section making mistakes. This, again, is hard to learn. Some people cannot stand beside another section and sing their own part; others cannot trust themselves if the person beside them makes a mistake. Choirs tend to be formed of little cells of followers around one singer they think of as stronger—a section leader. When the section leader errs, a whole section may fall into confusion. But the best choirs like ours insist that every singer be a leader...that no one can afford to be that tenth-beat behind their chosen leader on entrances, for instance.

Then there's the mundane side of things...singers must have the commitment, the discipline, to show up at rehearsals, work during rehearsals, do what it takes between rehearsals to arrive at the next one ready to go. Just showing up counts a lot--the time wasted by those who have skipped, who have to stop and ask questions because they weren't there, who come in late and have to ask what page we're on, who are chatting and not listening so they miss which bit comes next, who forgot their score or their pencil and need to borrow...that time is lost, missing from rehearsals. Choirs benefit from the dependable, the prompt, the prepared, the alert, those willing to concentrate on the work at hand. Individual singers must be committed to sing when they don't feel great, when their feet hurt, when their noses tickle, when their throats might be a little raw, when they've just been fired, when their significant other just got a job 400 miles away. More than that, choirs need to sing together awhile to balance the voices, determine what range of sounds a choir can make. So if voices are missing, are not reliably there, the true choral sound never quite emerges.

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When it comes together, though, it's an incredible rush...you feel alive, energized by the music you're singing, from toe-tip to the ends of your hair, from the inside of the brain out. Worth the rehearsal times, the commute to and from rehearsals, the time alone with a piano or keyboard or listening to a CD of the music while reading the score and practicing the pronunciation. Worth the cramps in the feet, the ache in the back, and so on.

Because out there--beyond the rest of the choir, the beautiful sound is built, note by note, phrase by phrase, filling the space, powerful and ephemeral. It is built...it is gone...leaving nothing behind but a memory of glory. Even if recorded (and most of ours aren't) it's not the same as being there, singing it, feeling the music in every cell."

Thank you choir for your dedication and all of those wonderful musical moments I store in my musical memory.

...*Brent*



**HEAR YE! IMPROVE YOUR SIGHT-SINGING SKILLS!
 INVALUABLE NO-COST CLASS OFFERED!
 ACCREDITED, ACCLAIMED & HUMOROUS INSTRUCTOR!
 STARTS WEDNESDAY @ 6 PM. COME ONE & ALL!
 FOR MORE INFORMATION, READ BELOW**

SIGHT-SING A NEW SONG

A Six-Week Class Working with the Basic Rudiments of Music

Wednesdays: 6:00 PM – 7:15 PM in the Chapel

There are countless singers in the world, many of them in church choirs and other music ensembles, who forever belittle their own musical ability because they can't read music. They see the myriad little black dots on the page as some grand mystery decipherable only by experts, far beyond their reach.

Sadly, the only reason most of them cannot "read" is because no one ever gave them the tools to learn, or someone tried to teach them in the same way one would teach an instrumentalist to read music.

"Sight-Sing A New Song" will give the participants the basic tools they need to learn the fundamentals of sight-reading music, from a singer's perspective. Obviously, as with any tools, learning to use and apply them will be possible only with time and practice. However, the ultimate outcome for those who apply the skills learned will eventually be able to sing any piece of music handed to them in the choir.

Join Brent beginning this Wednesday at 6:00 PM The class schedule is below.

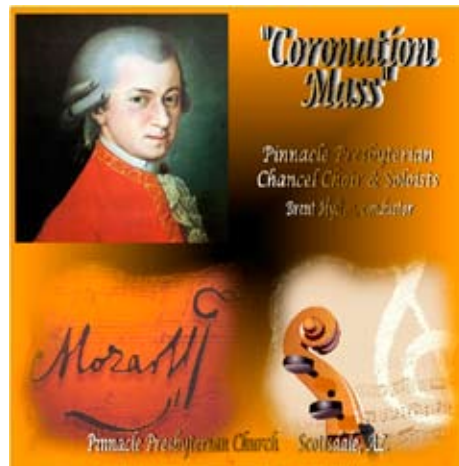
Date	Rhythmic Studies	Melodic Studies
September 17	Pulse & Meter (Simple & Compound)	Whole Steps & Half Steps; the Major
September 24	Notes & Rest Values in Simple Meter	The Musical Alphabet on the Keyboard
October 1	Reading Rhythm Patterns in Simple Meter	
October 8	Rhythmic & Melodic: Reading Melodies in Various Keys, in Simple Meter	Major Scales on the Grand Staff; Key Signatures; Accidentals
October 15	Note & Rest Values in Compound Meter	Reading Melodies in C, D, F & D Major, in Simple Meter
October 22	Common Time & Cut Time	Minor Scales & Key Signatures
	Rhythmic & Melodic: Reading Melodies & Rhythms in Simple & Compound Meter, in Minor keys	Reading Melodies & Rhythms in Simple & Compound Meter

Celebrating the Arts...

*Pinnacle Presbyterian Music Programs
Bring Forth CD Collections*

Out of the canyon walls of the Pinnacle Presbyterian Church Sanctuary come these fine examples of exceptional music in digital format - our PPC CD recordings!

The first large work the Chancel Choir performed was Mozart's "Coronation Mass" with members of the ASU Orchestra. You might recall it was performed before the organ was installed and we used the portative organ of one of our avid supporters Helen Spessard. Helen is also the mother and mother-in-law of retired chancel choir members Toby and Karen Spessard.



Pick up family and friends stocking stuffers now as these available CDs are a steal at \$10 each!

PPC Chancel Choir CDs include:

1. "It's Showtime" (new release! April, 2008 concert)
2. Haydn's "Lord Nelson Mass"
3. Haydn's "Mass in Time of War"
4. Handel's "Dettingen Te Deum"
5. Mozart's "Coronation Mass"

**MEN'S SECTIONALS
10:00 - 11:30 AM
SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 27TH**

Organ CDs include:

1. Hylton playing the Aeolian Skinner at Baker Memorial Chapel, Western Maryland College
2. "Pipes and Strings" - ASU Orchestra and Danwen Jiong, violin; Brent Hylton, organ
3. Poulenc & Handel Organ Concertos - Brent Hylton, organ
4. Pinnacle Organ Series - Brent Hylton, organ; Katie McLin, violin
5. Organ & Brass Spectacular - Brent Hylton, organ; Southwest Brass

Prayers and Concerns...

We bring to you these prayers and concerns of PPC Chancel Choir Members.

Prayers of concern for Carole Vandersteeg's little Isabella (2 1/2 year-old granddaughter) is scheduled for heart surgery on Wednesday, the 17th. Doctors will use the "Fontan" procedure, closing down two of the heart's four chambers, thus reconstructing her heart to only two chambers; they will also install a pacemaker. Isabella is a real trouper yet this surgery is so new and risky that 10% do not survive. A 4-6 week recovery period follows. We pray and continue to hope for the best. Carole will join the family within a couple weeks.

Prayers of concern for Linda Elliott and her son as he just underwent his fourth brain surgery in six months.

Prayers of joy for Carol Stull's father who turned 90-years-young!



"Our choir director always has us sing the slow, serious songs. You know, the songs that have an important message."

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Star-Gazing at Annual Fall Round-Up!

Come meet on The Green for some great food, fellowship and star-gazing! On Sunday October 6th (5:30 PM), Stargazing for Everyone, local professional stargazers, will bring high-powered telescopes to view the beautiful night sky. Observe the stars, moon and even Jupiter on The Green at PPC.

Bring your digital cameras as you will be able to take pictures through the telescopes! Or...bring your telescope and set up with the others. Children will be entertained with astronomy-related projects in Fellowship Hall.

Please RSVP for this not-to-miss event. Sign-up tables will be available after the 10 AM service beginning September 14. You may also visit the Church Office to sign-up. \$6 per adult, \$2 per child (ages 2+).

Jennifer Forrest

Happy Birthday to...

Amber Wanielista on the 17th!
Marlene Crane on the 21st!
Carrol Svedeen on the 23rd!

Happy Anniversary to...

Dawn and George Sheaffer
Diane and Al Oeste
Both couples celebrate their years of wedded bliss on Friday the 19th!

Devotions Schedule

September 17
Sue Larson
September 24
John Rosenfeld
October 1
Carl Svedeen
October 8
Tom Lyon
October 15
Meredith Downing
October 22
Ned Miner
October 29
Rodger Wilson
November 5
Darlene Leonard
November 12
Dick Phelps
November 19
Marti Nagel

Anthem Schedule

DATE	ANTHEM
September 21	"Salvation Is Created" (Paul Tschesnokoff)
September 28	"You Shall Go Out With Joy" (David Edmonds)
October 5	"Praise His Holy Name" (Keith Hampton)
October 12	"The King of Love" (Paul Christiansen)
October 19	"Down to the River to Pray" (arr. Philip Lawson)
October 26	"I Will Extol Thee" (Jane Marshall)
November 2	Nothin' Gonna Stumble My Feet" (Greg Gilpin)
November 9	"Be Thou My Vision" (arr. John Rutter)
November 16	"In Thee, Almighty King" (Dan Forrest)
November 23	"Gloria" (Carol Barnett)
November 30	"How Far Is It To Bethlehem?" (Mack Wilberg)
December 7	"Wondering" (Jane Marshall)
December 14	Children's Musical
December 21	"Betelehemu" (Wendell Whalum); "Angels We Have Heard On High" (arr. Todd Wilson); "Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head" (Gwyneth Walker)
December 24	"Carol of the Bells" (Peter Wilhousky); "Still, Still, Still" (arr. Norman Luboff); "The Virgin Mary Had A Baby Boy" (Mack Wilberg)
December 31	"Angels' Carol" (John Rutter)